

FRENCH PROPOSAL

UPDATE FAI DEFINITIONS

To distinguish DISCIPLINES requiring an OPEN parachute from those performed in freefall

thus allowing freefall activities in a wind tunnel to be recognised by the FAI/IPC



**FÉDÉRATION
FRANÇAISE DE
PARACHUTISME**

62, rue de Fécamp
7 5 0 1 2 P A R I S
Tél. : 01 53 46 68 68
Fax : 01 53 46 68 70

CURRENT DEFINITIONS

FAI STATUTES

FAI PARACHUTING COMMISSION (IPC)

All matters relating to parachuting.

FAI SC GS

1.4.

PARACHUTING	IPC	5	G	PARACHUTES
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2.2.1.7.

Class G: PARACHUTE - A collapsible fabric device designed to counteract the effects of gravity and intended to be used to return a suspended load or person safely to the surface of the earth.

IPC INTERNAL REGULATIONS (extract 1.2.)

- establish and define regulations for world parachuting records;
- establish and enforce rules for, and ensure proper organisation of, international parachuting championships and competitions

THE DEFINITION OF OUR FAI CLASS HAS NOT EVOLVED WITH THE DISCIPLINE AND DOES NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION EVENTS CARRIED OUT IN FREEFALL NOR IS THERE ANY DEFINITION FOR THE MUCH USED WORD “SKYDIVING”.

WE CURRENTLY HAVE OPEN CANOPY DISCIPLINES OR PARACHUTING DISCIPLINES:

- ACCURACY LANDING
- CANOPY FORMATION
- CANOPY PILOTING

AND DISCIPLINES THAT ARE PRACTISED WITHOUT THE NEED FOR A PARACHUTE OTHER THAN TO RETURN SAFELY TO THE EARTH AFTER THE PERFORMANCE:

- FREEFALL STYLE
- ARTISTIC EVENTS
- FORMATION SKYDIVING

THE LATTER CAN BE REFERRED TO AS SKYDIVING OR FREEFALL (both are proposed)

FREEFALL

“the hypothetical fall of a body such that the only force acting upon it is that of gravity” (Dictionary.com)

“the condition of unrestrained motion in a gravitational field”; “the part of a parachute jump before the parachute opens” (Merriam-Webster)

“Although a strict technical application of the definition excludes motion of an object subjected to other forces such as aerodynamic drag, in nontechnical usage, falling through an atmosphere without a deployed parachute, or lifting device, is also often referred to as Freefall. The drag forces in such situations prevent them from producing full weightlessness and thus a skydiver’s “freefall” after reaching terminal velocity produces the sensation of the body’s weight being supported on a cushion of air” (Wikipedia)

SKYDIVING

the sport of jumping from an aircraft and **performing acrobatic manoeuvres in the air under free fall** before landing by parachute. (Oxford English Dictionary)

WIND TUNNELS

WIND TUNNELS ENABLE CURRENTLY UNREACHABLE DEMOGRAPHICS SUCH AS CHILDREN TO DISCOVER OUR SPORT

WIND TUNNELS HAVE BECOME UNAVOIDABLE FOR FS AND AE TRAINING

SKYDIVERS REPRESENT BETWEEN 5 AND 10% OF WIND TUNNEL ACTIVITY BUT AROUND 30% OF WIND TUNNEL REVENUE.

FS AND AE COMPETITIONS HELD IN A WIND TUNNEL:

- ❖ ARE NOT WEATHER DEPENDANT
- ❖ ARE SPECTATOR SPORTS
- ❖ FACILITATE MEDIA EXPOSURE

WIND TUNNEL OWNERS AND COMPETITORS WOULD LIKE TO SEE COMPETITIONS HELD IN WIND TUNNELS HAVE FAI/IPC RECOGNITION AND TO BE ABLE TO ORGANISE BOTH SECOND AND FIRST CATEGORY EVENTS.

PROPOSED DEFINITIONS

FAI STATUTES

FAI PARACHUTING COMMISSION (IPC)

All matters relating to parachuting and freefall (skydiving).

FAI SC GS

PARACHUTING	IPC	5	G	PARACHUTE AND FREEFALL(SKYDIVING)
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Class G:

PARACHUTE - A collapsible fabric device designed to counteract the effects of gravity and intended to be used to return a suspended load or person safely to the surface of the earth.

FREEFALL(SKYDIVING) - the performance of manoeuvres by a person or group of persons while falling through the atmosphere or suspended in a flow of air generated by power, without a deployed parachute.